

McPIRG to host Barry Commoner

by Harold Koblin

Barry Commoner, Citizens' Party candidate in the 1980 U.S. presidential election and renowned author and biologist, will appear at McGill January 31 as part of Public Interest Week, a social awareness program being organized by the McGill Public Interest Research Group (McPIRG).

Public Interest Week, scheduled to run from January 26 to 31, is intended to provoke campus discussion on important social issues, says McPIRG organizer Peter Bruck.

"The basic thrust of this is to give exposure to public interest issues and to get volunteer groups going who will continue to conduct research on these topics," said Bruck in an interview with the Daily.

Public interest research groups were first formed in the 'sixties in response to the tremendous need citizens' groups have for academic-type research. Currently, there are PIRGs in operation across the United States and Ontario. OPIRG (Ontario PIRG), for example, is a federation of Ontario university PIRGs that researches social issues affecting Ontario residents.

Public Interest Week is intended to get the ball rolling on the creation of a PIRG at McGill. The six-day program will feature panel discussions, public lectures, and film presentations on such issues as: food and international development, women's issues, health and the environment, energy, and housing.

In addition to Commoner, Public Interest Week will offer McGill students the chance to hear Joseph Collins, co-author of *Food First, Aid as Obstacle* and a member of the Institute for Food and Development in California; Rick Pratt of the Canadian Nature Federation (Ottawa), an expert on acid rain;

Robert de Grasse of the Council for Economic Priorities (New York), an expert on disarmament; and a representative of Women Against Violence and Pornography, a New York-based feminist group with chapters in virtually every major American center.

Lunchtime seminars and film showings will also be held to acquaint students with citizens' groups operating in the Montreal area.

The basic goal of the week is to get students out of the habit of being passive consumers and into the habit of actively inquiring into the causes of these problems, then to solve them by becoming self-confident citizens, Bruck said.

So far, the PIRG has been fairly successful at raising money for Public Interest Week. They have, however, experienced considerable difficulty in getting money from the McGill Students' Society.

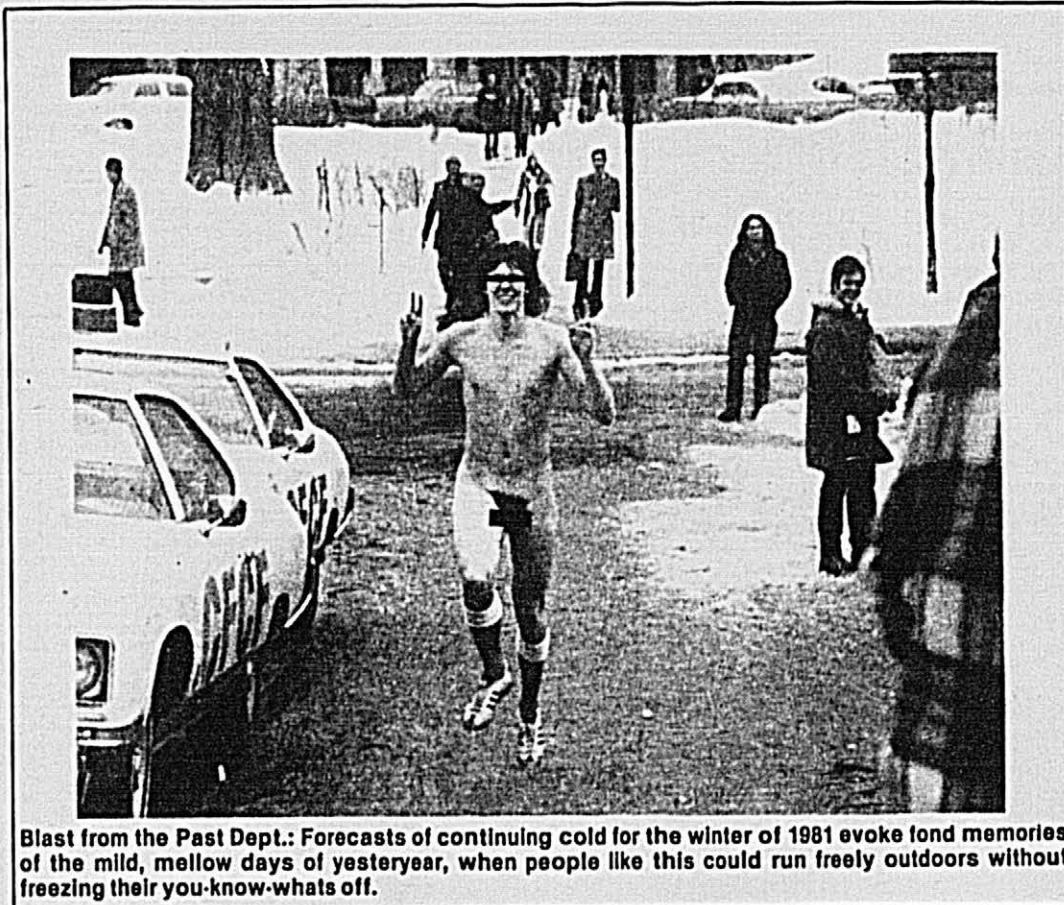
"We really don't have the money to give them. We'll give them some money because we support the idea but really don't have the money," said Todd Ducharme, president of the Students' Society.

Ducharme told the Daily that because PIRG applied late for funds and is not a recognized club, the group will have trouble getting funds from the Society.

"If they followed proper procedures, they'd be eligible for funds, but there's none left. I mean, the year's ending," he said.

Bruck, however, is optimistic about the possibility for Society funding. "I think there are people in the Students' Society who are really behind the idea of a PIRG."

Presently, there are over 100 members of McPIRG.



Blast from the Past Dept.: Forecasts of continuing cold for the winter of 1981 evoke fond memories of the mild, mellow days of yesteryear, when people like this could run freely outdoors without freezing their you-know-whats off.

Thursday
January 15, 1981
Vol. 70, No. 54
Montreal

The McGill Daily

Francophone Society stalled

by Brian Topp

Red tape is making life complicated for the Société des Francophones de McGill (SOFRAM).

The fledgling association is hoping to stage a number of cultural activities this term. But before it can do so, SOFRAM

has to be accredited as an official club within the Students' Society.

"They've made a request for club status," said Daniel Gaucher, Society VP External.

"They need 30 members and they have more than that. They've submitted a constitution, which I have. We just need to meet as an executive committee to discuss it, but we haven't done so yet."

Gaucher didn't know when the executive would consider the matter.

J. Bernard Laroche, an association member, told a general meeting of SOFRAM yesterday that the organization wouldn't be able to reserve rooms or hold activities until the matter is cleared up.

"It's bureaucracy," he said. "It's not clear whether we're formally recognized."

Laroche said that

disorganization in the association last semester had delayed its club application.

While representatives try to settle the issue, SOFRAM is working on projects for the winter semester.

These include a "Semaine de la Francophonie", slated for February 23, 24 and 25. SOFRAM will be inviting student and outside poets to come in to read their work. A series of colloquia will be held to discuss social, political and economic topics, and an exhibit of Quebecois art and handicrafts will be held.

The organization is also planning to conduct a film series and to stage theatrical productions during the semester.

SOFRAM was formed earlier this year as a non-political body dedicated to promoting francophone culture at McGill.

Winnipeg student brandishes BB

WINNIPEG (CUP) — Last week a University of Winnipeg Student Council member was arrested by Winnipeg police for brandishing a handgun and a bayonet on campus.

Tom Holden armed himself and took up an "observation point" in one of the university's buildings after he was robbed by three men on the university grounds.

Shortly after reporting the

robbery to university security, Holden was found in a university building by a security officer on his rounds.

The astonished officer stopped Holden and began to question him. After a few questions Holden said "If anyone gets in my way I'm going to waste them."

In a later interview Holden said, "they stole my keys and I got this paranoid, scared

feeling. I wanted to get out of the building so I took up an observation point so I could just watch what was going on."

Police were called in to detain Holden. When found later Holden was arrested for "brandishing a weapon and causing a public disturbance" and detained for two days.

It was later discovered the gun was a BB gun.

Canadian Bill may escalate world food crisis in 80's

by Anita Schapiro

"And he gave it for his opinion, that whosoever could make two ears of corn to grow upon a spot of ground where only one grew before, would deserve better of mankind, and do more essential service to mankind, than the whole race of politicians put together."

Jonathan Swift, 17th century writer

If Jonathan Swift had said that today, the modern politician would have probably passed it off as a quaint wisecrack. But legislation is now pending in the Canadian Parliament that, if approved, would aggravate yet further world hunger in the 1980s.

The legislation is called the Plant Breeders' Rights Bill. It is known in Parliament as Bill C-32. If passed, it will

mean that crop traits will become patentable. Whoever buys the patent will have all rights to control the conditions of sale of that crop worldwide for up to 30 years.

If it were only farmers and individual plant breeders that were involved, the bill would serve as a protective measure. However, in the past decade, chemical and pharmaceutical aggregates have been buying out smaller seed companies rapidly. Corporate research teams now develop new seed strains, and spend even more of their time developing crop chemicals that farmers buy in the hope of preventing crop damage.

Three major problems have arisen. First, because it is now the multinational corporations who are vying for patents, the cost has become prohibitive to the small breeder.

Second, when crop chemical companies own the seed companies it is in their interest to encourage the use of chemicals on crops rather than developing hardier hybrid strains. And third, the western, industrialized nations have so abused the crop gene pool upon which farmers depend for diversity that the number of strains has eroded to an alarmingly low level.

Interestingly enough, nearly all of our crops originated in the Third World, particularly from Africa, the Mediterranean, and the Near East.

If Bill C-32 is passed, the farmers will be caught in a stranglehold. The multinationals will charge the maximum price that the market will bear for seeds and chemicals. Often, seeds are "pelleted", or sold already chemically treated, so that farmers will have no choice about organic farming.

In addition, the multinationals will draw large royalties from their patents, and it can be assumed that once their profit margin is large enough, research will slack off. Certain companies, according to *Newsweek* magazine, even admit to "resting on their laurels," or worse, "blackshirting" — holding back on a crop strain that may be advantageous to farmers until competition is at a low ebb — so that demand will be higher and they can command a higher market price.

Their companies are already in a privileged position in the world's agricultural market. They have access to cheap land, cheap labor, and tax shelters abroad. Yet they are not very careful with their privileges.

Once a crop gene disappears, it is irreplaceable, and no chemical can

continued on page 11

Classified

Ads may be placed through Sadie's, 1st floor Student Union building, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
McGill students: \$2 per day. For 3 days \$1.75, more than 3 days \$1.50.

341 - APT., ROOMS, HOUSING

Converted renovated country school house located in Lake Memphremagog area. 3 bedrooms, furnished, fireplace. Available weekly, monthly, seasonally. 651-0329 eves.

4 room apartment available Feb. 20 to mid-May, \$320/month negotiable. On Hutchison, 392-5797 day, 849-0841 eves.

Etudiante voudrait partager 5 1/2. St-Urbain et Fairmount. \$85 par mois. Tel: 271-3734.

Willing to share immediately a well furnished quiet 3 1/2 with another tidy responsible male. Modern highrise, close to McGill. Includes swimming pool, sauna. Indoor parking available. If interested, please call 842-2869.

350 - JOBS

Student with background in Accounting wanted to work weekends as cashier and answering telephone in Snowdon area restaurant. Call 488-9571.

NOW HIRING swim, sail, canoe, windsurf, arts & crafts, tennis, gymnastics, judo instructors, section heads. Minimum \$100/week plus free room, board, laundry, etc. July-August. Call Pripstein's Camp 481-1875. Also final year nursing student.

Secrétaire-dactylo demandé(e). Temps partiel. Heures flexibles. Entre 9:00 et 18:00 hres. Bilingue. Pour plus d'informations: 392-8923.

352 - HELP WANTED

Wanted: responsible, mature babysitter to care for 6 yr. old, two days per week, 3:00 - 5:30. Downtown area. Call 843-8423.

The Yellow Door Elderly Project desperately needs Ukrainian, Russian, and Hungarian-speaking students to visit isolated elderly people in the McGill ghetto and downtown area. If you can visit for an hour, once a week, please call Donna or Elizabeth at 392-6742 or 392-4947.

354 - TYPING SERVICES

For fast, professional typing at reasonable rates, call 488-6439 or 931-8445.

Typing - theses, essays, research papers, term papers, etc. Your choice of type style. Quality work. 934-1455.

Leave the typing for us! We'll type your resumes or term papers professionally and accurately in both languages. For more info, call Agence de Placement Montréal at 866-8829.

361 - ARTICLES FOR SALE

One rare stereo cassette player. Brand new, still in box. Make is Audiovox. Oswald, 3421 Durocher St. no. 45 after 7:30 pm.

363 - TO GIVE AWAY

We have to give away our "family" of four adolescent male cats, as our own family is on the way, and we won't have room for everyone in our small apartment. Two of the cats are 1 1/2 years old and neutered, and the other two are 8 months old. One cat is all black; the others are striped. If you can make a good home for one or two of them, please call 845-7506 after 5 pm.

365 - WANTED TO BUY

Anyone having Springsteen tickets to sell, call Dan at 739-7969.

367 - CARS FOR SALE

1977 Camaro. Excellent condition. Low mileage. 4-speed. Air conditioning. Power-steering, brakes, windows. AM-FM stereo-cassette. \$5300. Call day 842-1761, evening 487-7707.

372 - LOST AND FOUND

Found: one pair of Lange hockey skates with Tuck blades, at Winter Stadium. Call 381-3041 after 7:00 pm.

374 - PERSONAL

Personal: Would you like to bring some zest into your life? Are you bored with books and in need of a change of scene? Then call the Student Dating Service at 284-2756 after 6:00 pm. We offer a free introduction service to any interested McGill students. You may meet the person of your dreams.

383 - LESSONS OFFERED

Piano lessons: beginners, adults, etc. McGill area. Call 286-0672.

FREE: Trial guitar lesson from an experienced teacher. If you like it (I'm sure you will), I offer various styles and techniques, finger-picking & flat picking, songs to learn. Low negotiable rates. Steven 273-0812 Mon. Wed. Fri. till 11 am and occasional evenings.

385 - NOTICES

Find out what fraternity life is all about. Come to the DEKE open house at 3653 University today at 7:30 pm. Refreshments will be served.

Welcome to the new G.O.P. with a "Grand Old Party"! Saturday, Jan. 17, 9 pm at the ADs, 3483 Stanley St. Beware of pink elephants, neo-nazis and corporate executives at this Reagan Inaugural bash! Beer and shots are tax-deductible!

Show Us Your Fleche! Fencing Club has started. All fencers and last year's beginners are welcome. Tuesdays and Thursdays 7:30 pm.

387 - VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers needed. Research project needs healthy, non-smoking volunteers 18-40 years of age for a study being conducted on a drug under current investigation. Volunteers must be free to give four 12-hour days over one month and to be available to report at specified times during a 3-day protocol. Honorarium is being offered. If interested, please contact the Division of Clinical Pharmacology, Montreal General Hospital, 937-6011, local 791.



A Resident children's summer camp requires Counsellors

INSTRUCTORS for:

Swimming, Sailing
Waterskiing, Canoeing
Physical Education
Roller Skating, Tennis
Archery & Riflery
Land Sports, Drama
Folk Dancing, Secretary
Registered Nurse
Kitchen Manager
Waitresses
Assistant Cooks
Pot Washer, Maintenance

Salary: \$100 per week

Call between 9 am and 5 pm
(514) 933-4836

OPTOMETRISTS

Dr. R. Greiche O.D. Dr. N. Scaff O.D.

- Eyes examined
- Glasses fitted
- Contact Lens center
(hard, soft, permanent lens)

Serving the McGill Community

1401 Peel

(Just above St. Catherine)

842-5489



Student Special
Squash & Fitness
at the

**Ville Marie
Squash Club**

- 10 Squash Courts
- Squash Instructor
- Fully Equipped Gym
- Jogging Track
- Lockers - Sauna - Sunroom - Whirlpool
- Restaurant / Bar

SPECIAL PRICES FOR FULL-TIME STUDENTS*

Full Membership: \$175 annually (no additional charges)

Associate Membership: \$75 annually (plus \$3 per visit)

Students are entitled to full use of Squash and Fitness facilities during the following hours:

Weekdays: 7 - 11 am; 2 - 4 pm; 8 - 11 am

Weekends: 9 am - 10 pm

*must present I.D. card

Limited Enrollment - Join Now - Phone or Visit

**Ville Marie
Squash Club**

Capitol Centre
1200 McGill College
861-6705



YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS IT!

GASTRONOMICAL GORGE-OUT

Looking for a way to get out of the kitchen on Saturdays?

Well, the Newman Centre will do the cooking for you at the nominal cost of \$2.00 per person.

It's a great way to relax after a day in the library or to start off an evening on the town.
Dinner is served at 6:30pm every Saturday.



McGill Newman Centre
3484 Peel Street
392-6711

LA TAQUERIA
LA TAQUERIA
LA TAQUERIA

RESTAURANT & BAR mexican

The place for authentic Tacos Enchiladas & other Mexican delicacies. Hot or mild.

Ask for the January Bar Special
with Chips & Salsa.
Between 2 - 5 pm

1429 O'Connell, Montréal
843-6336

RICHTER, USHER & VINEBERG

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS - COMPTABLES AGRÉÉS

MONTREAL TORONTO

ACCOUNTING STUDENTS

1981 Summer Employment

Applications are now being accepted for summer employment in our Montreal office. If you are in your second year of University studies majoring in Accounting and plan to pursue a career as a C.A., please submit your application to your Campus Canada Employment Center.

8¢

copies

with
student ID

crisp, clean copies on bond
while-u-wait
also reductions, transparencies,
colour copies & binding

on the
XEROX
Hi-speed
electronic
printing
system

**1000 flyers
in 8 minutes**

less than
8-1/2" x 11", white
or colour bond

3¢
each & tax

Our McGill University branch on the boutique level of the Four Seasons Hotel is at your service!

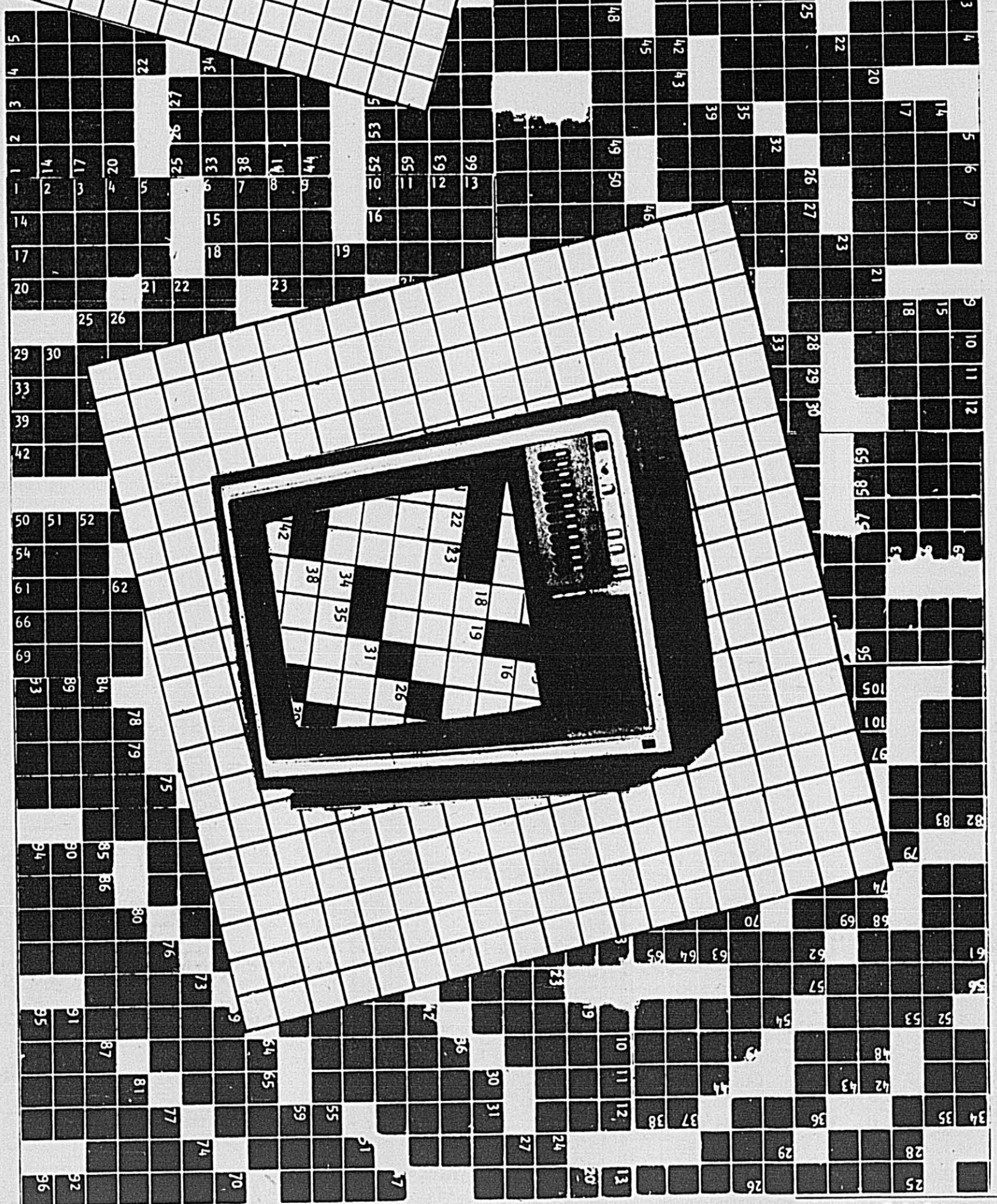


Impressions Drummond Inc.
1010 ouest Sherbrooke
H3A 2R7 (514) 845-2484

Impressions

Service ultra-rapide d'imprimerie & de photocopies

THE WEEKLY



::graphicism::

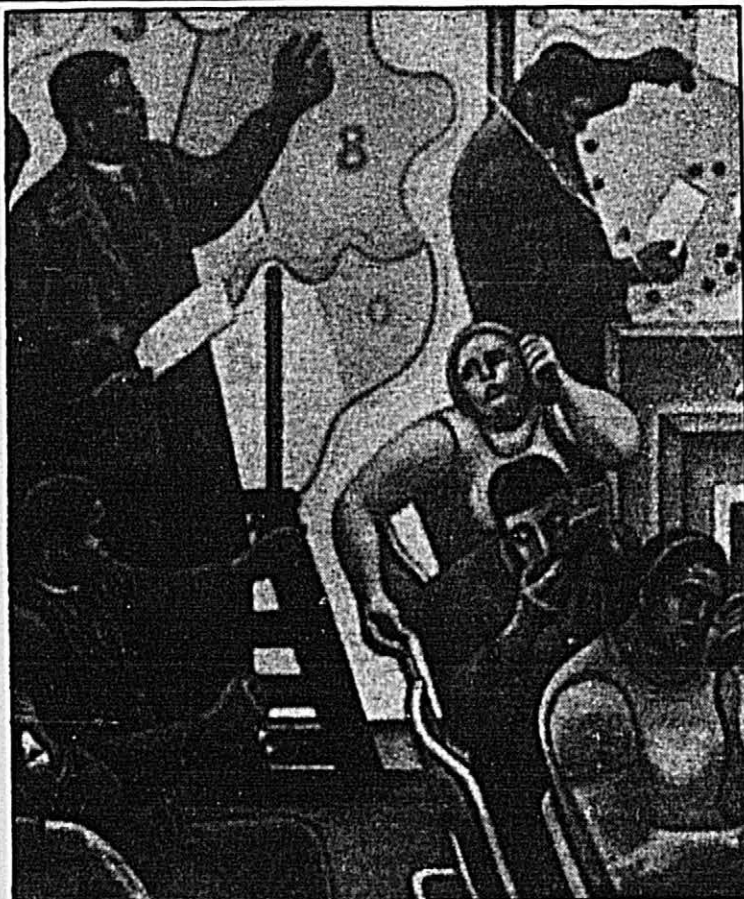
Phoenix:**Orwell Rises**

Les Thiele
Chris Cavanagh

The formidable task of putting George Orwell's 1984 on stage has been achieved with great success in David Rimmer's play now playing at the Phoenix Theatre.

The essence of portraying Orwell's visionary world on stage lies in the fact that it is a world devoid of humanity, devoid of individuality and devoid of free will; the world of 1984 is, in essence, stripped of those qualities necessary for traditional drama. As O'Brien, played by Jack Langedyk, coldly remarks, this is a world where tragedy is impossible for "there are no heroes here."

The actors and actresses do an excellent job of creating the two levels necessary for portraying Orwell's paradoxical world where *War is Peace!*, *Freedom is Slavery!* and *Ignorance is Strength!* David O'Connor, who plays Winston Smith, vividly exhibits the paranoid romantic locked



into a world where romance is "crimethink", a heresy.

The players communicate the two levels of Orwell's work: one being the mechanized, loveless world of Big Brother skillfully created by Langedyk; the other being that level that makes Winston Smith a tragic hero with whom the audience can identify. The third and final character, Julia

(Elaine Lakeman), is given an original interpretation by Rimmer. Lakeman in turn, succeeds in portraying Julia's changing emotional state.

1984 is a thought provoking performance surpassing mere entertainment. Rimmer's fidelity to Orwell's masterpiece is combined with enough originality and life to merit your time.

Heads Stimulate

Adam B. Caruso

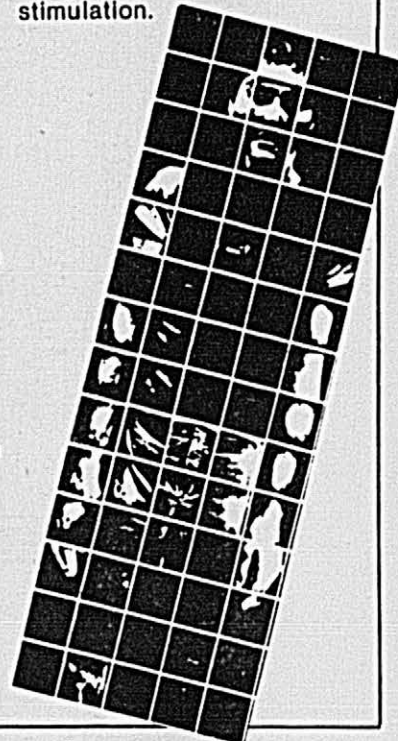
Remain in Light, Talking Heads' newest release, is a startling example of crosscultural art. In its music, the group's two resident geniuses, David Byrne and the incomparable Brian Eno, have produced a perfectly congruous combination of African and R'n'B motifs. The former, drawn from Eno's various recordings of African popular radio (a rich, untapped source of inspiration for modern music), adds an exotic element that will surely make any listener take notice. The R'n'B flavor keeps the tunes from going off the boat, and insures that a popular audience will not be alienated. A cunning concoction indeed.

At first listening there may prevail a sense of sameness to the songs, but with a little time, the complex polyrhythms and endearing modal themes give each one a life of its own. The diverse, and sometimes obscure, lyrics add to this element of individuality, and each composition comes to exist within itself, and as part of the whole.

The group plays with a greater vigor than on earlier releases, and adds to this new instrumental confidence the talents of Adrian Belew (guitarist extraordinaire, of the

Fripp school of guitar) and Nona Hendryx (formerly of Labelle). Eno helps out in a number of areas (writing and playing), and puts in the usual (for him) resplendent production job. Such a clear presentation of this multi-cultural concept would not have been possible without his love for the discrete.

This record is one of the most fascinating of the year, and will afford the listener many hours of intellectual stimulation.



Restaurant PLACE CUBAN

Greek Specialties
Club Sandwiches
Italian Dishes
B.B.Q. Chicken & Steaks
Chicken & Fish Brochettes

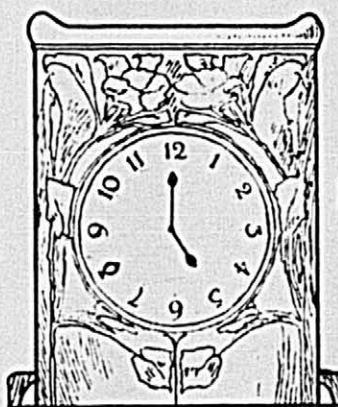
Open at 7 am
for breakfast

In the Shopping Area
of Place Sherbrooke
Cor. Metcalfe
& Sherbrooke
Across from
Bronfman Bldg.

The South Africa Committee

will be holding its first meeting of the new year in
Room 302 of the Union Building,
Today, Jan. 15 at 5:00 p.m.

All
members
please
attend,
New
members
welcome.



Free
Coffee
and
Doughnuts!

**FAITH AND SEXUALITY
GROUP**

*A provocative enquiry into the
relationship between faith and sexuality.*

Birks House, 3520 University St.

Mondays, 12:00 — 1:30

Phone Chris Ferguson, Chaplaincy, 392-5890, or Adrienne Price, Counselling Service, 392-5774, for further information.

RISEING SUN CELEBRITY JAZZ club

presents
Montreal's Beloved



Blue-Rock Guitarist

Ellen McIlwaine

Tonight thru Sunday

286 Ouest Ste-Catherine
861-0657

Metro Place des Arts

Sweatshirts, T-Shirts,
Jogging Pants

at
Le Sweatshoppe

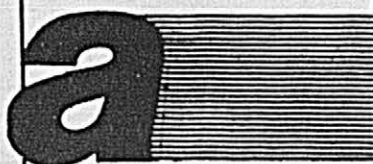
Quality and style
in sweatshirts,
long & short-sleeved
T-shirts, decals.

Custom
screen printing
for clubs, etc.

Upstairs at
5185 Decarie
Suite 5 489-5378

Reg. Bus. Hours
Sat. 9:30-5:00

Super
typesetting
from SST



SST Typesetting
1880 Center Street
Montreal
932-1454

Les BALLETS RUSSES de Montreal

Dance Institute — Director Mikhail Berkut
Ministry of Education Permit 749641

WINTER SESSION

Jan. 5 - April 18

CLASSICAL BALLET
(Russian Method)

BALLET-JAZZ

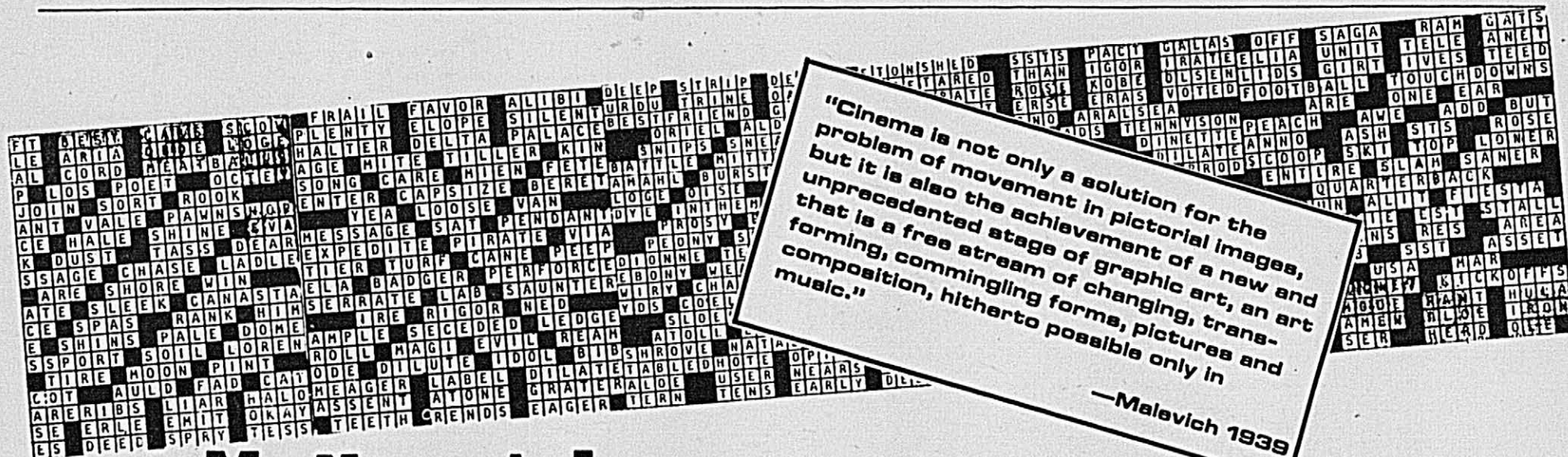
Guest teacher:
Eva Von Gencsy

Adults-Children Beginners-Advanced
Monday-Saturday Daytime & Evening
Three Studios 12 Teachers

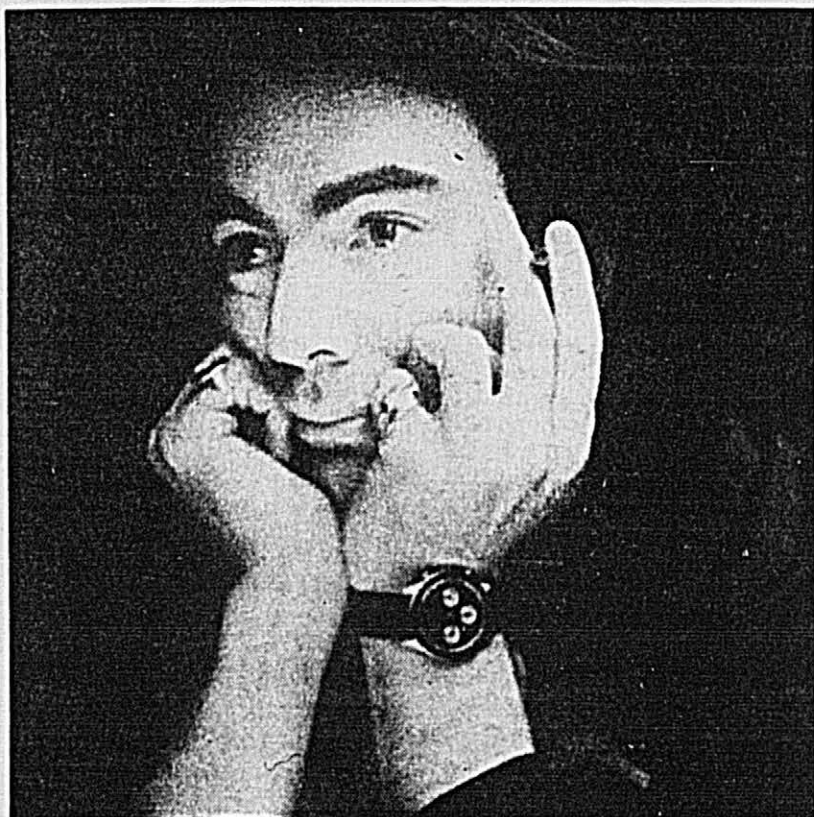
REGISTRATION NOW tel: 288-1677

1231 St. Catherine West, Suite 120
Montreal H3G 1P5





My Name is Jesse



"Love on the Rocks", the current single by Neil Diamond, is rising on the record charts. Apparently, this single as well as the entire *Jazz Singer* soundtrack is faring much better than the movie itself — and so it should be.

Even though *The Jazz Singer* is the second remake of Al Jolson's famous role (the first was in 1933 with Danny Thomas), the focus is on the middle-of-the-road sound emanating from Diamond himself. He is composer of most of the music for the film, including the anthem-like "America" and the more subdued "Hello Again". In addition, because the film is an ethnic one, he sings a number of traditional Jewish folksongs such as "Hava Nagila" and the ceremonial "Kol Nidre" to usher in Yom Kippur.

Unfortunately the rest of the plot, unlike the music, is too obvious and saccharine sweet. Even the classic happy ending has been a Hollywood standard for years.

The Jazz Singer revolves around Jesse Robins (otherwise known as Yussel Rabinovitz), a cantor's son whose destiny has been forged for generations by his religion. Robins is trying to establish his own identity as a

pop singer and composer but this takes him into all-black nightclubs as a black singer and across the country playing small town bars.

Lawrence Olivier gives a credible performance as the tearful father that Robins can no longer live his life for. The film centers around the conflict between the Jewish religion and the son's unorthodox ways so some of Olivier's movements and actions may confuse members of the audience not entirely familiar with the religion.

Lucie Arnaz is the film's most redeeming factor. Her acting is earnest and her character amusing (especially in the scenes where she goes to great lengths to get Robins a singing engagement). Although Robins is pressured by the business, he loses the audience's empathy to Arnaz when he deserts her.

Director Richard Fleischer has produced concert scenes that are reminiscent of both *The Rose* and *A Star Is Born*.

The striking difference however is that there is no tragic ending. Jesse Robins climbs to the top within two weeks and gets everything he wants — a reunion with his father, a baby with his lover, and the realization of the American Dream. Somehow this leaves *The Jazz Singer* seeming somewhat unreal.

Formula Fizzles

Jim Blackburn

In times past, when life was simpler, good guy/bad guy movies tended to be about gangsters. Some greasy looking hood in an oversized suit would go around with a Cuban cigar order henchmen to carry out his "contracts", while the cops — except for the obligatory crooked lieutenant — tried in vain to "pin the rap" on him. Things would look grim for the guys from "the force" but the star detective would come in, "nail" Mr. Big and rescue the thugs' "moll" from the depths of deprivation.

In the 1980s filmgoers are no longer interested in some snarly little underworld figure terrorizing thousands. A more sophisticated audience wants wickedness portrayed as some "overworld" figure exploiting millions. And so Little Caesar has given way to Big Caesar, or rather to an Ultra Caesar. In *The Formula* his name is Adam Steiffer, and he is the head of the world energy cartel.

The Formula is the story of Barney Kale, a tough-but-honest cop (George C. Scott) who is put on the case when his old buddy, the basically honest but tarnished-by-greed ex-chief of police, is shot up in his Beverly Hills home. A few deaths later, he flies to Germany for some footage of the Alps and the Berlin Zoo. While there he pieces together a tediously complex story full of wicked old Nazis and long hidden secrets.

In the end, all roads lead back to Adam Steiffer (Marlon Brando). Enter the important social commentary? The international energy cartel is depicted as the creator and protector of the American Dream, while actually screwing the public for all it's worth. Its crimes are glaringly obvious, but like Al Capone in days gone by, there is no way of proving anything.

In short, this is a movie begging to be patted on the back for telling it like it is. It is not about the ironies of a major movie studio (MGM) preaching the evils of corporate concentration, consumer manipulation and exploitation. No, this is basically a good guys/bad guys film, for an exceptionally cynical audience. And from that rather narrow vantage point, it's something of a success.

The casting for *The Formula* is no great feat of creativity. They merely took two of the best conceivable actors to fill two rather stereotypical roles. George C. Scott has played a decent son of a bitch surrounded by rotten sons of bitches often enough, and he manages to do it yet again without seeming stale. Marlon Brando hasn't played the embodiment of evil quite so often, but it isn't new to him. Steiffer is a less surrealistic figure than Brando's last role in *Apocalypse Now*, but Brando fleshes him out, as it were. Sitting back in his chair with his feet on his desk, bloated belly facing heaven, he smiles the benevolent smile of one who knows the world beats a superhighway to his door.

The basically good but misguided moll is Marthe Keller. Again, a piece of unimpeachable but unexciting casting. The twist given to the usual third party role provides the basis for some of the most humorous dialogue in the movie.

A final comment on the editing and pacing of the movie, since this is where the *Formula* really comes in (thanks to the heavy hand of producer-director John Avildsen): the long walks through police headquarters are fine, as are the stock shots at the airport and in the taxis; the brief scenes in the Nazi-esque strip-joint makes statements against pornography while providing the requisite titillation.



COMEDY



Altman Is What He Is

If successful comedy and/or comedic tales have as their major requisites the fact that they must, above all else, falsely set up certain commonplace assumptions and then catch us off guard as they trash these down, we would be sailing safe waters if we said that Robert Altman's *Popeye* is a successful film comedy. After all, doesn't Altman take what most saw as a frivolous cartoon strip and distort it so that, like the most inane of knock-knock jokes, it never fulfills even our most basic of expectations? So goes comedy — an unexpected twist and a resulting laugh.

Had Altman been a conventional movie director and had he delivered a movie to rival both *Superman* and *Flash Gordon* trendsetters, his story wouldn't have held together long enough to stay afloat. Instead, his *Popeye* exists in that "no respect" land between what children can respectfully call their own and

what adults would fight violently to lay claim to. Altman purposely contrived the movie so as to distance it from your average sticky eight-year-old, but he also unwittingly failed to amuse his target audience — the adults.

Some will insist blindly that this quasi-musical comedy alludes to no less than three Freudian theories, the basic principles of anarchy and self rule, the injustice of taxation, ancient Greek myths, and even Frank White's *The Wizard of Oz*. Others will simply revel in the film's impeccable detail, its naivety and its accomplished visual transitions. Still other would bestow accolades only on the actors and actresses involved: Robin Williams as Popeye, Shelley Duvall as Olive Oyl, and 10-month-old Wesley Ivan Hurt as Sweet Pea.

Altman successfully marries the farcical old comedy represented by the film's non-realistic onomatopoeics and gratuitous violence (which he

promptly reduces to the absurd as in human bodies hit so hard they rocket through the air) with the coherent new comedy story line: Popeye is obsessed with his search for his "pappy" and, in the course of his quest, is catapulted into the world of Sweet Haven, a seaport community with missing babies, mistaken identities, barroom brawls, and other extraneous stimuli that usually only bombard heroes in comedies of manners. Popeye's is a world of *sotto voces* and asides, which although characteristic of all Altman's films and true to life, must be filtered through to avoid sensory overload.

Also disorienting are the Archie Bunker-type crimes against the English language committed by William's Popeye. Having established Popeye's personal and human limitations, these malapropisms (e.g. house of ill-repukes), besides being funny, also serve to keep Popeye the object of satire.

Tragicomedy

Louise Haberl

The mysterious, cyclical death of huge populations of lemmings is no laughing matter. Neither, apparently, is the *McGill Comedy Club*. In fact, the situation confronting this newly established club is so unamusing that even its president couldn't think of a funny joke to amuse this reporter.

The problem, it seems, is a dearth of humorous types who are willing to contribute their time and bad jokes to the *Comedy Club*. The result is a very diseased state of existence of the club, which presently has a membership of four.

Victor Tasca, president of the *Comedy Club*, is indeed an unhappy man. The poor response to recruitment ads and to the showing of *Blazing Saddles* last November appears to have convinced him that there is no joy, only concern for GPAs, in the hearts of McGill students.

Tasca began the club last November hoping to provide students with a forum for their talents as well as with a chance to see comedians and funny films.

"The club could be any of these things — I would like to see people doing their own skits, something along the lines of *Saturday Night Live*," said Tasca.

Although he collected a list of approximately twenty names at an initial recruiting meeting, Tasca has neither seen nor laughed with these people at subsequent meetings.

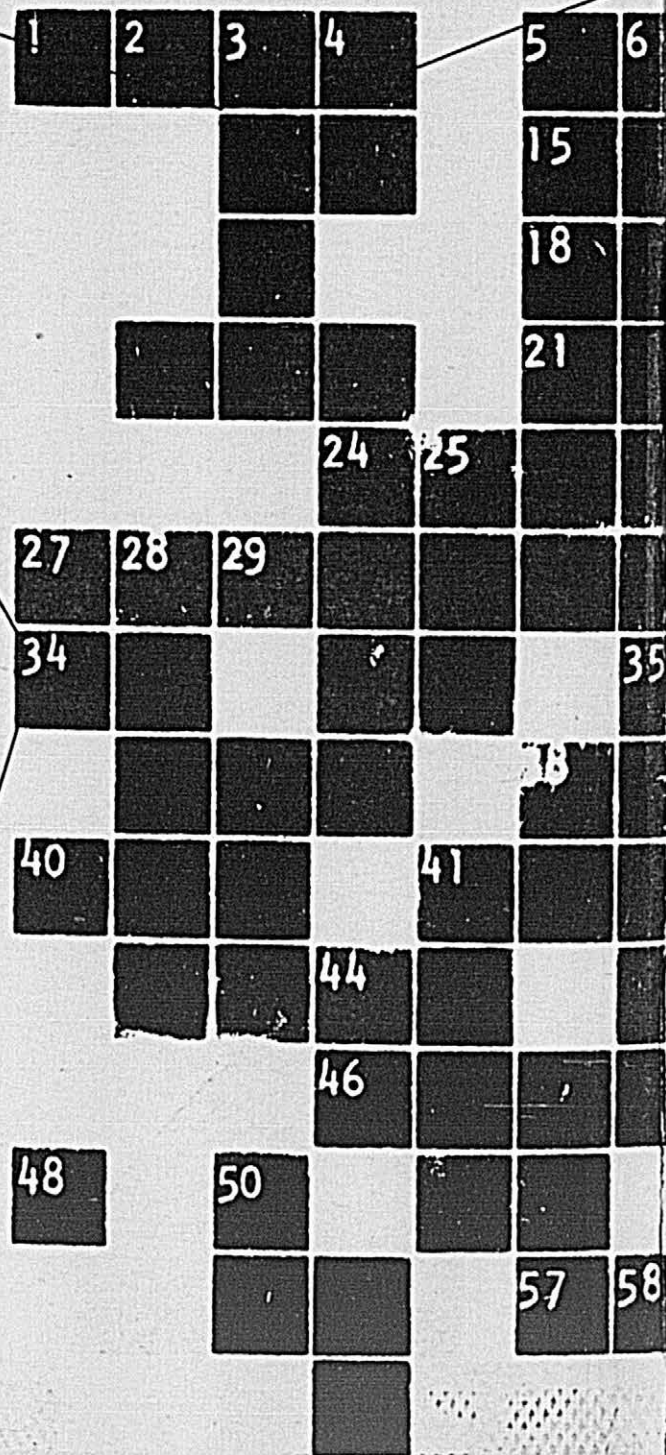
"I'm losing my optimism, bit by bit," Tasca sighed. As if to emphasize his point he hardly smiled once during the entire interview, and could not muster a laugh.

Tasca is not entirely discouraged, however. He feels that if there is a good response to the showing of the movie *10* (today at 3:30, 7:00 and 9:00 pm) then it may be worth continuing the club. He is willing to accept any suggestions for a direction that the club might take, and stresses that it isn't necessary to be a comedian to join.

"I'm not funny at all," he points out. "I just like to sit there and laugh."

The *Comedy Club* will be holding a meeting January 21 for its present members (all four are invited to attend) and all other fun-loving types on campus. The festivities will take place in room 107 of the Union Building.

For those hesitant to join such a frivolous club, bear in mind that the academic disease is everywhere, and every disease needs a cure. Laughter is the best medicine. No joke.





Y

Seasons Cloudy

Kathy Galarneau

Every now and again, in the world of comedic film there comes an inspired, urbane, and witty film much unlike *A Change of Seasons*. This movie, instead, is a rather flat yarn that relies solely on box-office draws in lieu of both content and the long-standing tradition established by those other Hollywood comedies.

Anthony Hopkins, Shirley Maclaine, and Bo Derek get entangled in romances galore. *A Change of Seasons* recounts the popular theme of the married male taking on a nice young lover so that he can once again be younger than springtime. Hopkins, who plays a preppie university professor, indulges in a classic May-December romance with bouncy, bubbly student Derek. Maclaine is the scorned wife who refuses to sit still, a passive observer of

her husband's infidelities.

The performances by all are rather indicative of the chilling New England climate where the film was shot. No one acts with much conviction and the characters portrayed are for the most part cold and one-dimensional.

The main action unravels in the frigid hilltop air of Vermont's Green Mountains. Here, these suburban couples let loose and partake of various indoor and outdoor sports with their respective lovers. From this point onwards, the ludicrous occurs and, although many scenes have the right ingredients for humor, they tend to come off with a detached severity. When Maclaine's and Hopkins' daughter catches her parents with their younger partners, she explodes in self-righteous indignation rather than exploit the comical nature of the

scene.

There are, however, two redeeming moments in the film. The first is the ending which leaves the viewer wholeheartedly awed and quite satiated. The second, the brief view of Montreal's skyline at night, is later tarnished. (Hopkins and Derek take a "business trip" where a distorted image of Montreal life is presented.) It is hardly recognizable, but up to par for the movie.

The essential problem with *A Change of Seasons* is that it cannot combine the unusually precarious situations the people find themselves in with the hard facts of what might actually happen. Of course, the satire exists and most of the comedy is obviously tongue in cheek, but these traditional devices are overshadowed by fluff and exploitation.



The Drowning Pool

Tracy Swanson

The Secretary's Revenge is a more appropriate name for the new movie *Nine to Five*. It is literally a secretary's dream. Signed, sealed, and delivered, this movie is comparable to a B-rated, dirty birthday card: the punch line makes you groan and roll your eyes. Don't be totally discouraged; there are a few good laughs for the diedhard humor-seekers in the audience. The jokes are a little stale and seem forced on the part of the three talented actresses but occasionally add a lift, much needed, to the dialogue.

The basic idea is good and many secretaries will identify with the plight of these essential cogs in the mechanism of the business world. The film's heroines are three secretaries, each having a different level of seniority and experience, who are faced with the corresponding obstacles to their ambition.

Lily Tomlin does a fair job depicting the ambitious, hard-headed secretary who virtually is the company, and is passed over for a long-awaited promotion because of her sex.

Dolly Parton plays a custom-made role: the stereotyped, taken-for-granted receptionist who serves coffee and fends off the advances of the boss.

Jane Fonda is horribly miscast as the naive, young divorcee out in the working world for the first time and having adjustment problems. The character is supposed to be flaky and unsure of herself but it takes too much imagination to envision the cool, liberal Fonda in this old-fashioned role.

The sexist, overbearing boss, Hart (played by Dabney Coleman) is an oppressive

blowbeater, opposed to innovation and indifferent to the toiling workers.

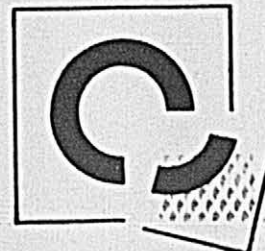
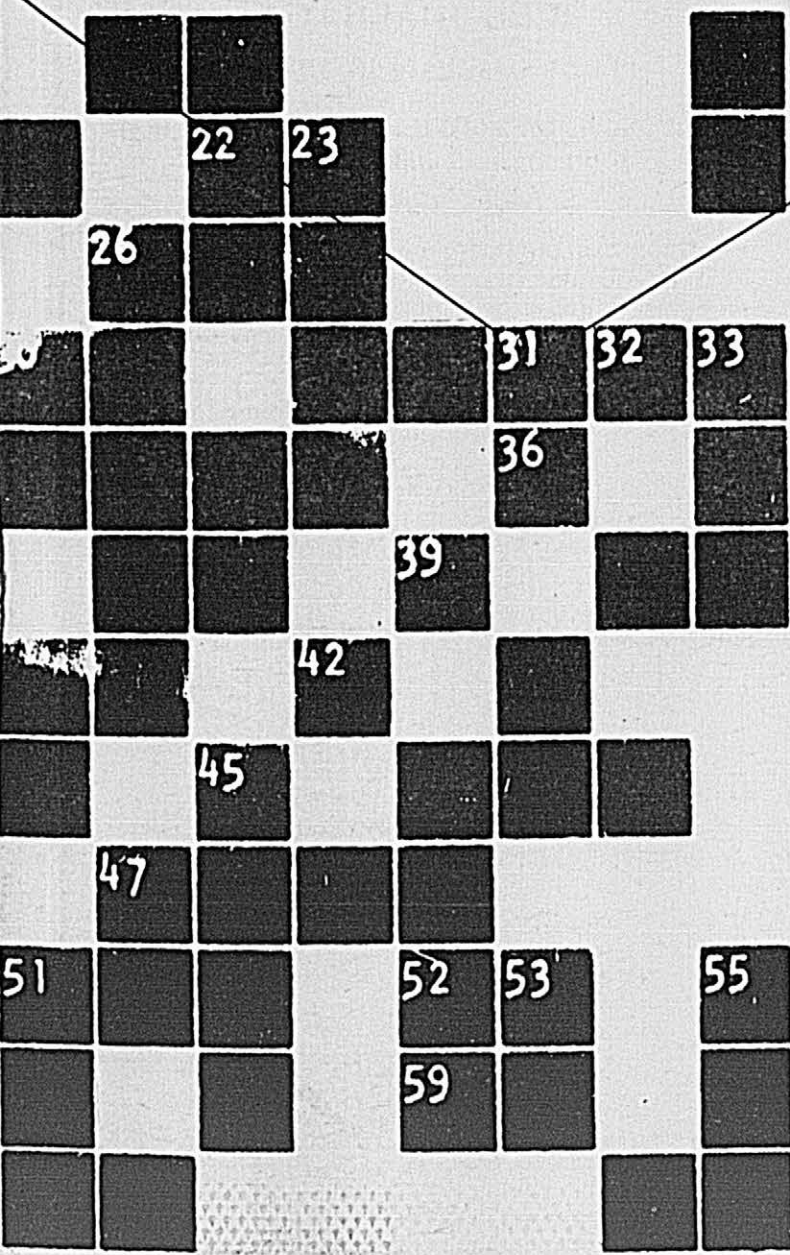
After each has had her respective run-in with Hart, all three ally and plan their revenge over drinks and a joint. This trilogy of dreams is too stupid and drawn out to bother explaining.

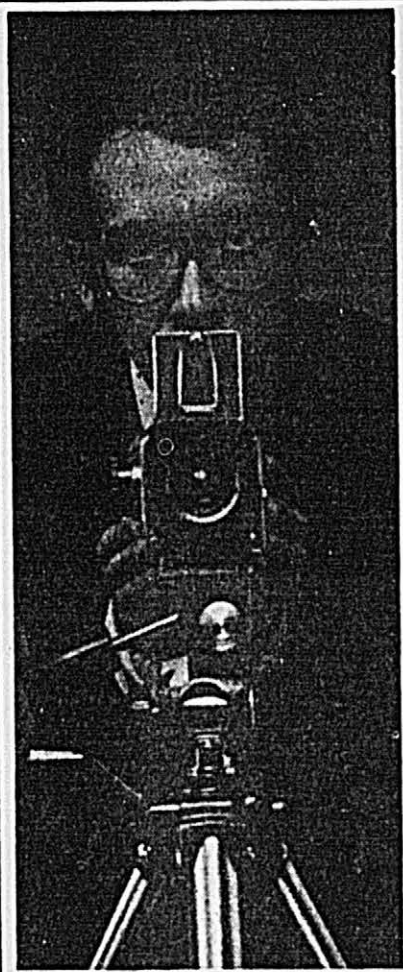
The unthinkable happens when Hart is rushed to the hospital, unconscious, when his chair tips over from a bump to his head. Tomlin mistakenly thinks she has accidentally poisoned the boss's coffee.

The three women, finding their boss alive and believing that he knows of the "poisoning", kidnap him to prevent his escape. While they decide what to do with him, they confine him by a leash and heavy chains in his own home. His wife, meanwhile is away on vacation. Back at the office, the three wily secretaries do the boss's job and initiate some radical changes while fending off anyone wishing to see him.

Their innovations turn the seventh floor of the company building into a worker's paradise — lounges, daycare and split shifts, and a memorandum for equal pay for women.

The chairman of the board gets wind of these new innovations and is greatly pleased with his employees' hard work. Hart is justly rewarded and the three under-appreciated secretaries get the last laugh and breathe a sigh of relief. What becomes of the three secretaries and their boss Hart is one of the more amusing points of the film, and so is left unremarked upon here for those who appreciate a happy ending.





After Punk:

Ultra Ban Cans Costello

Howard Druckman

The latest Ultra Ban TV commercial says a mouthful about the current state of new popular music. The ad features a vacuously fashionable couple preparing their artificial appearances for their presumably artificial evening. The camera crosscuts rapidly between He combing hair, She painting nails, to the Two of them "ready" for the evening. What renders the commercial more than typically annoying is the soundtrack, which is a note for note, sound for sound reproduction of Elvis Costello's "I Don't Want to go to Chelsea". The media hustlers really got their act together for this one — voice, rhythm pattern, guitarwork, right down to the cheesy organ sound, perfectly cloned to suit their purposes.

Elvis Costello, a writer of highly obsessive songs almost mired in naked passion (whether desire, anger, or guilt), has had his art not only stolen, but castrated in order to sell underarm deodorant. The fact that Costello's obsessions include a great disdain for the principles of fashion (cf. *This Year's Girl*, *Lipstick Vogue*) and a great fear of and resistance to the temptations of mass commercial popularity (cf. *I Don't Want to go to Chelsea*) further deepens the irony. Costello has been quoted as saying, "I won't be around to witness my artistic decline". But who could have foreseen the obscene parasitism that would reduce the blood and guts of such a clever, intense artist to so much pointless mush, and for such a worthless purpose?

What is so disturbing about the situation is that it typifies the symptomatic decay of the truth and fury of rock'n'roll. Just as the Stones have become Mick and Co. going through the same tired routine of musical jokes, and Dylan has abandoned the power and scope of his vision to sing the praises of the Lord, so an apparent rock'n'roll revolution in England has been hyped and leached into meaninglessness. It has already become a cliché to say that "New Wave", whatever that is, is dead.

From the massively unemployed, dead-end youth of a terminally ill nation came a last spark of angry life. Sud-

denly, and too briefly, rock once again became a means of social and political expression, powerful enough to frighten a complacent, tired country, really frighten it. The punk "movement" became almost exactly that, so that anyone, regardless of previous training or talent, could give it a go. Hence, the Sex Pistols. So how did we arrive at Billy Joel, subjecting innocent listeners to his putrid but commercially successful attempts to capitalize on a three-year-old phenomenon? How is it that we now face passionless, marginally talented bands like the Cars and the Knack virtually cloning themselves repeatedly for mass consumption?

Blame the mass media. In North America, radio stations will play only "the hits", and records will only become "hits" if they are played on the radio. The tastes of station managers and program directors across the nation determine the commercial fate of the music. If it sounds like it will sell, it is playlisted at the local station and lo and behold, it sells. If it doesn't sound saleable, which is a ridiculous term to apply to music, then it doesn't even get the chance to try. Even in England, where punk was played on the radio, the "movement" has broken into many splintered lifestyles, each marching to their own drummer's beat (eg. ska, mods, leftover punks, etc.).

As soon as the commercial viability of the new music was established in the minds of radio people, there emerged a spate of cold, boring, but profitable young bands capitalizing on the new sound, all lumped together as a "New Wave", possibly the most nebulous term in current popular speech. From radio the parasitism spread to other media, so that Eaton's commercials sound exactly like Gary Numan, who's cold and pointless anyway. The New York Times Magazine is packed with the sorts of commercial photographs and graphics that, as little as two years ago, could only be seen on a very few record covers. As soon as something culturally fresh and strong attains a certain level of popularity, it is stolen and castrated by the mass media.

Why? To sell beer, of course. And underarm deodorant.

WEEKLY PRODUCERS:

Gino Apponi, editor

Louise Haberl

Kathy Galameau

Vincent Buffone

Chris Cavanagh

Carlos J. Constantino

Richard Wesley-James

HAIR PROBLEM?

We offer electrolysis or waxing with experience and reasonable prices.

Call us now at:
861-7931

**SALON D'ELECTROLYSE
ISABEL LARA**

Suite 208,
1396 Ste-Catherine West

McGILL SWEATSHIRTS & JACKETS

Nylon & Leather

**SPECIAL
FREE CUSTOM
SLEEVE NAME BAR**
(Till Jan. 31 with purchase of jacket)

PEEL CYCLE CENTRE

1832 St. Catherine W.
932-2896 (Metro Guy)



HILLEL

845-9171
3460 Stanley

ONEG SHABBAT

Friday, January 16, 1981

Come join us for a relaxing evening, fine meal, song, spirit, & warm company.

Services begin at 6 pm.

Cost: Discount card members: \$3.00
Others: \$3.50

Catholic Masses on Campus



NEWMAN CENTRE
3484 Peel Street

Mon.-Fri. 5:15 pm
Sat. 5:00 pm
Sun. 11:00 am
8:00 pm

UNIVERSITY CHAPEL
Birks Building
3520 University Street

Mon.,
Wed., Noon
Fri.

An Open Catholic Community

OLD MCGILL

'81

pictures taken for the yearbook: You can still get your smiling face in Old McGill '81 but there are as few conditions.

1) The initial sitting fee is now \$17.95 but you still get the same deal of four 4 x 5 proofs to choose from, your favorite to be made into a 5 x 7 full colour enlargement — and of course your photo will appear in the graduate section of the book.

2) Your picture and biography will be in a Supplementary section of the grad section and not in your faculty. However, your faculty will be specified next to your name.

The deadline for this special offer is Feb. 13, 1981.

Cost breakdown:

Initial sitting fee	
and 5 x 7 enlargement	\$17.95 plus tax
Cost of book	8 8.00
Mailing charge (optional)	8 3.00
	\$28.95 plus tax

A Brief History of Education: Very Brief

George Cook

The on-going, torturous history of Quebec education has, since the inception of the French colony in 1608, been a microcosm for broader class and national antagonisms. Bound up in religion, language, ideology and wealth, Quebec's schools have been an often vicious testing ground for competing interests and an index of class, national and religious power.

Religion and language are among the oldest sources of endeavor and conflict in European Canada. In 1615 the Recollets arrived in New France, followed 10 years later by the Jesuits. The early zealots set out to make North America's native people Christians and they carried out their mission despite torture and death.

Education, with all that it implies about the formation of perceptions and attitudes, was, from the beginning, worth dying for. And if it has not brought the people of Quebec to that extreme often, it has been the object of political confrontation and protracted anguish time and again over 378 years.

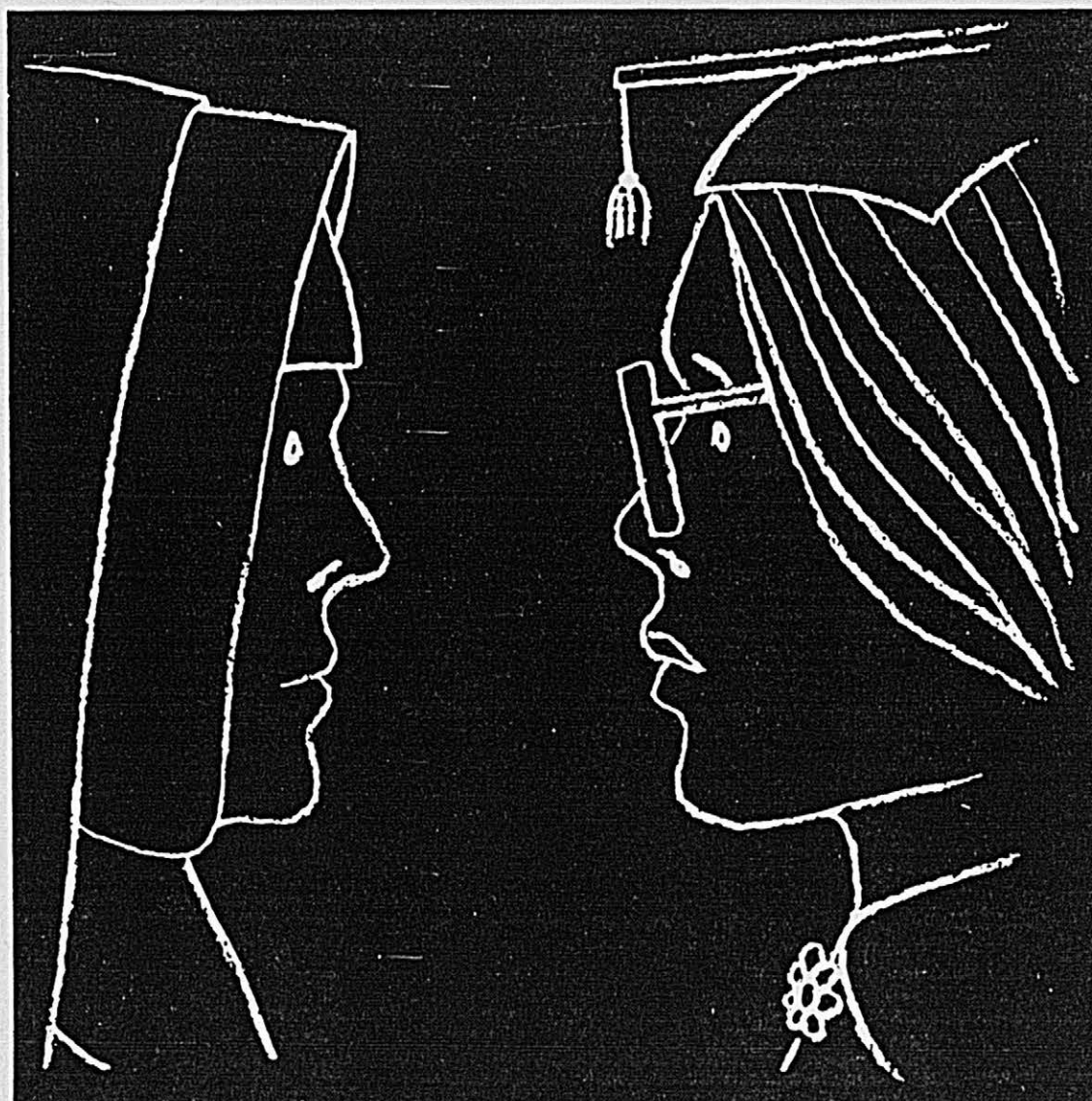
The competition for power over education has not been an equal one by any means. French and then British authorities, the Church and popular political formations have vied in a continual imbalance — the British and, later, English-Canadian ruling classes, and the Church, enjoying the upper hand in an uneasy alliance.

In this context, and given the importance of the education debate engendered by Trudeau's proposed amendments to the British North America Act, one would expect a new history of Quebec education, no matter how brief, to attempt to deal frankly and with some sophistication with the creation and development of our schools and universities.

Unfortunately Roger Magnuson's *A Brief History of Quebec Education: From New France to Parti Québécois* (Montreal: Harvest House, 1980) is not the book we're looking for. Only 130 pages of large type and a naive vocabulary, it fails to do justice to an important subject.

In this little history, the author, a professor of education at McGill — formerly the Director of Graduate Studies in Education here — deals with the entire course of development of educational institutions in the province.

It is very much an institutional history, chronological rather than thematic, with only cursory treatment of many of the most important aspects of the



A Brief History of Quebec Education: From New France to Parti Québécois
by Roger Magnuson
Montreal: Harvest House, 1980
130 pages

struggle to create a system of education in Quebec.

Beginning with New France, Magnuson details changes in the institutional structure of education through the conquest and rebellion of 1837, to Confederation, through gradual expansion to the major reforms of the early 60's and attempts at viable linguistic policies in the '70s.

In so short a work it is perhaps too much to ask that education receive comprehensive treatment; however, even given the book's limited scope it does not present an historically convincing picture of the school debate.

In fact, Magnuson's view of history, while not without precedent among English-Canadian historians, is distorted by a basic lack of appreciation of the impact of British rule and the mediating role of the Church in Quebec.

The author sums up in a few sentences what he sees as the consequences of the imposition of British rule:

The tone of the new colony was set by the Royal Proclamation of 1763 in which the British government called for the assimilation of Canadians into the English way of life. In short, Canadians were to be anglicized and protestanized. Ironically, the British were no more successful in making Englishmen out of the Canadians than the French had been in making Frenchmen out of the Indians. That

such a policy failed in the long run was due not only to French-Canadian resistance but also to the collaboration of early military governors, particularly Murray and Carleton, who worked to protect the interests of Canadians. This development was formalized in the Quebec Act of 1774 which represented a victory for French-Canadian culture and religion.

After dealing in a cursory way with the conquest, Magnuson seems to lose sight almost entirely of the dominant class in Quebec — the English-speaking Protestant class — and concentrates his attention on the Church, casting it as a vicious defender of orthodoxy at the expense of advances in modern education. No doubt this view is partly correct, but a partly correct view is hardly adequate when dealing with so complex a subject. His failure to understand the role of the Church stems from his failure to recognize the historical significance of the Quebec Act.

Magnuson does trace the development of denominational education in Quebec, with attention to Protestant interests, and he can hardly help but notice that the Anglophone school system from top to bottom was for more than 300 years always in advance of the Francophone one; but he ascribes this to the pernicious influence of the Church and, vaguely, to Protestant money. He does

not make the connection between the two.

Struggles for control of education in Quebec have intensified periodically — 1837, Confederation, Quiet Revolution and recent events come immediately to mind. Magnuson's treatment of these periods is superficial, but some interesting parallels become apparent if we read between the lines.

"In political terms," Magnuson writes, "Confederation confirmed rather than altered the existing educational order. Under Section 93 of the British North America Act of 1867 education was designated the exclusive responsibility of the provinces, except that no provincial legislature could pass any law which would 'prejudicially affect any Right or Privilege with respect to the Denominational Schools which any Class of Persons have by Law in the Province at Union.'"

The BNA Act gave control of Quebec education to the majority, with one important limitation. Quebec did not have the right to tamper with Protestant schools.

Magnuson quite correctly sees the limitation to section 93 for what it was — a protective measure for Quebec's English minority. The limitation may remind us in certain respects of federal Liberal proposals for minority language education rights (where numbers warrant), proposals designed, once

again, to apply equally across Canada to unequal national entities. Francophones in Ontario, Manitoba and New Brunswick were not protected by the limitation placed on section 93 because they had no rights to begin with. While today's situation is less unbalance, the effect of current proposals will resemble those of 114 years ago.

Magnuson could not, of course, be expected to deal with these questions, and they are not strictly relevant to the discussion of his little history; but they do point out one possible use for an otherwise inadequate treatment; those with some knowledge of Canadian history may find the book an easy primer for parallels and patterns not explicitly drawn there.

Magnuson's book does not deal with many important issues in Quebec education. He points out the class bias in education in New France and during early British rule, but he loses sight of the question later. Attendance at our universities is still determined, in great part, by the degree of affluence of the student's family. Student aid programs have not altered this substantially. So, while obvious class discrimination has disappeared and while illiteracy, so common earlier this century, has greatly diminished, the class character of Quebec education remains unchanged. The general standard of education has risen without substantially altering the social structure.

Nor does Magnuson deal with pressing current problems, although he does indicate, at the end of the book, that he does not approve of Parti Québécois policies requiring newcomers to the province to send their children to French-language schools.

Judging by the simple language and lack of sophistication of the book, it would appear to have been written for the high school market. Judging by its minimalization of the impact of British rule, its magnification of the pernicious influence of the Church and its (albeit weak) defence of personal free choice in language of instruction, it would appear to have been timed, after the referendum and before the provincial election, to contribute to attempts to reverse PQ measures.

The book contains no original research and the synthesis of existing material leaves a great deal to be desired. If it is designed as a high school text, we can only hope it will not be required reading. Its political impact will be negligible in any case.

Today

Volley Teams Practice

Men — 7:00 P.M. Currie Gym
Women — 8:30 P.M. Currie Gym. New Players invited — Speak to Coach.

ASUS

Council Meeting, 6 P.M., Union, Room 425. Please Attend.

Winter Carnival

There will be a Winter Carnival meeting today at 4:30 p.m. in Room 204 of the Powell Student Services Bldg., 3637 Peel St. All executive members, (and any one else who is interested), are asked to attend.

McGill Cross-Country Ski Club

Do you want to learn how to cross-country ski? Do you want to tour the Laurentians with a group of people? Maybe you are serious and want to compete? If the answer is yes to any of the above questions then come to our general meeting at 6:00 pm in room 405, Currie Gym.

Bake Sale

NDP McGill will be holding a bake sale today in the lobby of the Union Bldg. from 10 a.m. onwards. Come on out and try some socialist goodies.

McGill Ski Team

Important meeting today at 5:10 P.M. in room G-20 of the Sir Arthur Currie Gym. The race list for this weekend will be announced, sign up for race on the 24th and 25th and the new hats will be available.

'10'

The McGill Comedy Club and the McGill Program Board present Bo Derek in the movie '10', today in FDAA at 3:30 and in Leacock 132 at 7:00 & 9:00. Admission \$1.75.

Community McGill

Give some of your time to someone that needs it, become a volunteer. Drop by your office for info. Rm. 406 from 12-2 (392-8937).

Women's Squash Club

Attention all squash players! The McGill Women's Squash Club and Squash Quebec want you to find out why you would wear eyeguards. See the exhibit 'Eye Injuries in Racquet Sports' all this week in the lounge of the Currie Gym; then enter the drawing for 2 free eyeguards, courtesy of Bausch and Lomb and Laurentian Optical.

News Department Radio McGill

All McGill students interested in joining the news department of CFRM are invited to attend the first general meeting of 1981 on Thursday January 15 in room B09-B10 of the student union building.

McGill Student Zionists

Open meeting 1981: 4:30 pm. Everyone is welcome. We'll be discussing our upcoming Coffee House, Hebrew discussion groups, speakers, and anything else you are interested in. Hillel House 3460 Stanley St.

Library Workshop

Card Catalogue — Subject Approach

Come and learn how to use the Library's Subject Catalogue to find books on a specific topic. This workshop is given today at 1-2 p.m. and 3-4 p.m. Starts at the Undergraduate Library Information Desk. Call 392-4288 for information.

McGill University Advertising Club

A new club for students interested in Advertising and Communications. Come to our information booth in the Samuel Bronfman Bldg. from 12-3 pm for information on tours to ad agencies and other activities.

Camera Club

To All members: You must pick up your new membership cards during office hours today (Rm B06) or at the General Meeting this Friday January 16 at 3 pm in the ballroom (Rm 301).

Gay Men and Women of McGill
Welcome-back meeting tonight. Coffee, food, music and a chance to catch up on holiday gossip. 8 pm, basement lounge, Union Building. Everyone welcome.

English Students

There will be a general meeting of the Department of English Students' Association today at 4:00 in Arts B-20. All students are welcome.

McGill Juggling Sect

First grand meeting of 1981. Will be performing "Welcome in the New Year" juggling rites. Bring candles, food and any unnecessary pets. Newcomers also bring three objects. (Warning: Do not confuse us with our rivals, the McGill Circle of the Workers' Juggling Party.) Meeting will be at 4:00 pm in Memorial Hall, Currie Gym.

Friday

Library Workshop: Periodicals

Today's workshop will show you how to use indexes to find articles in periodicals (magazines), as well as how to locate journals in all McGill libraries. The workshops are an hour long. They start at the Undergraduate Library Information Desk at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. For information call 392-4288.

Association of German Language Students

The Film "Jeder für sich und Gott gegen alle" will be shown today at 4 p.m. in the German Lounge. Stammtisch tonight at 7 p.m. in the Cafe Prag for those who would like to converse auf Deutsch mit Bier und Wein.

Open Party

At Sigma Chi, 3581 University, for the McGill Urban Cowboy. Begins at 9:00 p.m. Friday 16th, everybody welcome.

McGill Contemporary Dance Club

There will be an important workshop for Keith's group from 4:20 until 6:00 pm in Memorial Hall of the Currie Gym.

Caribbean Students Society

Monthly Meeting, Friday, January 16, Student Society Bldg. B15. Time: 6:00 p.m. Main Issue: Annual Cultural Show. February 13, 1981. All invited.

McGill Hellenic Association

"Diomidis Komninos"
Calls all its friends to an evening of Greek music. The musical group of the Concordia Hellenic Ass'n will perform. Today at 7:30 pm, Union room B01. Refreshments will be served. Free.

McGill Chinese Students' Society

Film show on tomorrow night at 7 pm in FDAA. "Tiger & Kids" and "Who is to blame" are showing. Members \$1.25, non-members \$2.00. Chinese New Year Nite, tickets on sale at Sadie's today.

Sigma Chi Fraternity:

Feeling Cold? Warm up at our second Happy Hour of the season, today at 5:00 pm. 3581 University St. 281-9021.

Northern Studies Seminar

Major Kenneth Eyre, Staff Officer, Northern Training and Mr. Yves Bélanger, Scientific Advisor to the commander, Mobile Command Headquarters, St. Hubert, Quebec, will speak on "The Military in Northern Canada." 2 pm. Friday, Room 24, Purvis Hall, 1020 Pine Ave West. For further info, call Ms. Pat Tuck, 392-8209.

Lecture

"Women Erased?: Power, Patriarchy and Religion". This is the first in a series of lectures on women and religion. Today, from 12-3 p.m., 3495 University.

Saturday

McGill Contemporary Dance Workshop

Short workshop this Saturday at 1:00 in Dance studio.

Golem Coffee House

Golem starts off a new season presenting Liora Moriel, a renowned international singer and guitarist, at 8:30 p.m. at the coffee house, 3460 Stanley Street. Admission \$2.75 students (I.D. required), \$3.25 non-students. For more info call 845-9171.

Psychology Students

The McGill Psychology Students Association is holding its first ever "Winter Welcome Back" Party on Saturday, January 17 at 8:30 P.M. in B01 of the Union Building. FREE admission — live D.J. — beer, liquor, & wine (at low prices) everyone welcome.

Savoy Society

Rehearsal Saturday at 11:00 am in Union Ballroom. Please be on time.

Crack a pack of Colts along with the beer.

The advertisement features a black and white photograph of a bottle of Colts Old Port, a glass of beer, and a pack of Colts Mild Old Port. The pack is labeled "Tipped" and "COLTS MILD by OLD PORT". The text "Rum flavoured. Wine dipped." is visible on the pack. At the bottom, the slogan "Crack a pack of Colts along with the beer." is written in a large, stylized font.

DANCERCISE

with

LORNA KERTLAND

at

Royal Victoria College

A unique and artistic blend of fitness and dance, accompanied by a wide range of carefully selected classical, jazz and contemporary music.

Lunchtime classes offered at a special student rate (\$10. for ten classes) starting Monday, January 19th.

For information, telephone 932-6031.

by George Cook

"Publish or perish." Academics seeking tenure lie awake nights repeating those words to themselves.

But scholarly publishing, like other productive activities, constantly responds to economic changes that don't necessarily have, as their primary objective, the dissemination of knowledge.

These days, those changes are transforming the publishing industry in profound and disturbing ways. Scholarly publishing is not immune and has been forced to adapt to the new economic reality — inflation.

On October 9, McGill-Queen's University Press, one of the largest scholarly presses in Canada, announced an agreement with the University of Toronto Press that could begin a trend among Canadian scholarly presses to consolidation and centralization of the process of producing books.

Donald Sutherland, the director of McGill-Queen's Press, believes the change is a good one. Without it, he said in a recent interview, McGill-Queen's would have been forced to close.

He outlined the circumstances that provoked the change, and described the new arrangement.

"The press's (financial) circumstances hadn't changed," Sutherland said. "We were breaking even on our subsidy, but with inflation the subsidy would have to be increased in the eighties."

The cost of production has risen 75 per cent in the last ten years, Sutherland said. Although McGill-Queen's has been breaking even, trouble was foreseen, especially in light of a dramatic decrease in government support for publishing in particular and universities in general.

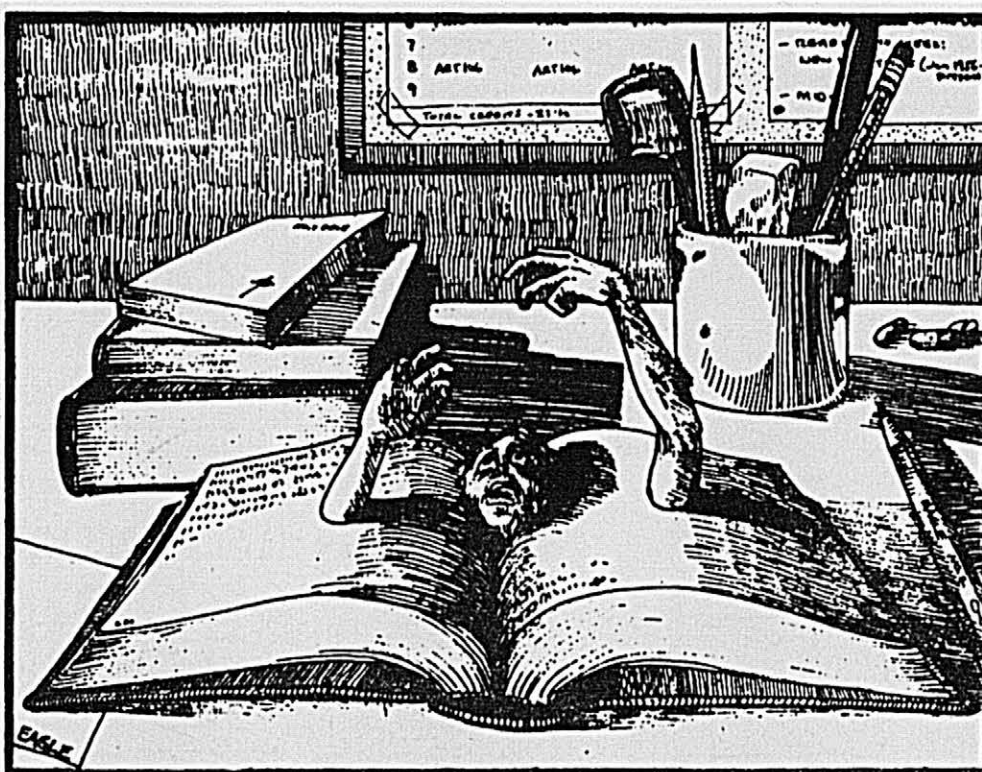
Under the new arrangement, McGill-Queen's, which has handled its own design, typesetting, printing and marketing, will turn those aspects over to U of T Press, an operation that has the capacity to undertake added production responsibilities.

When the agreement takes effect in 1981 U of T Press will receive a percentage of revenues from books sold, or \$85,000 per year, whichever is less. McGill-Queen's will continue to supply manuscripts and money to cover production costs.

McGill-Queen's will select, appraise and approve manuscripts. These will be sent to Toronto and will be published with the McGill-Queen's imprint.

McGill-Queen's retains a board of directors and editorial advisory committee, and will hire an acquisitions editor in both Montreal and Kingston to solicit manuscripts for publication.

The new arrangement benefits both McGill-Queen's and the University of Toronto Press, Sutherland said. The former, by reducing staff, saves labor



McGill-Queen's Press looks to Toronto for salvation

costs; the latter, by adding production, produces more books with roughly the same amount of staff, thereby lowering the cost per book.

The savings to McGill-Queen's will be about 75 per cent per year, Sutherland said.

When the change takes effect next year, it will be 20 years since the founding of McGill University Press in 1961. Its history has been an illustration of the influence of economic change on the scholarly publishing industry.

In 1969, under economic pressures that had been mounting during the Sixties, McGill approached Queen's to undertake a joint venture, and McGill-Queen's University Press was founded. When Sutherland came to the director's job from Macmillan of Canada in 1974, McGill-Queen's had a staff of 21. Several years ago McGill-Queen's arranged to have warehousing done by U of T, another cost-cutting measure. Now, in 1980, the staff has been cut to seven people. When all is said and done McGill will hire only one person part-time.

About 14 titles per year will appear under the McGill-Queen's imprint, slightly less than in previous years. But, Sutherland explained, a proportion of past titles were co-editions originating in Britain.

While the move can't be compared to the near-bankruptcy of Chrysler or Massey Ferguson, it does have serious economic ramifications. The main question for scholars, however, is how it will affect their ability to publish their

research.

Sutherland believes the effect will be slight. What it means, he said, is that McGill-Queen's will continue to bring out books under its own imprint, while reducing the cost of production. Lower cost could mean less expensive books, or more revenue for the press, which could in turn result in more titles per year.

Sutherland doesn't think editorial control will follow the centralization of production.

"I don't think the change will be very apparent to the average person. As far as editorial policy is concerned it doesn't represent a change," he said.

Editorial prerogatives are independent of production influences. "I can't see anything they're doing (in production) influences my decision to publish or not," he said. The only thing McGill-Queen's requires is the ability to submit material and power over design, so the books appearing under its imprint have a distinctive appearance.

What may essentially be seen to be happening in most aspects of publishing and communications in general, is centralization of both editorial power and the production process.

Scholarly publishing is unique, however, in that sales, while a consideration, is not the major one, because up to now there has been a small, but assured market.

A combination of trends, however, could change this. A decrease in money available to major buyers — academic

libraries and major library systems — and increases in the cost of books despite economies of scale in production, could make market considerations more important.

Already books are evaluated for sales potential. "A book can be a great contribution to scholarship, but the market so tiny as to hardly justify the work," Sutherland said.

When a manuscript is submitted to the editorial board for a decision on whether or not to publish, a market and cost estimate is also submitted, and the final decision is made taking all factors into account.

"I think there is a trend among North American scholarly presses to follow Oxford University Press and to publish general interest books," Sutherland said.

However, general publishing is speculative and more of a gamble than the scholarly variety. "The problem is how far a university press can move in that direction without becoming taxable. We think of ourselves as a non-profit organization."

While there is no immediately apparent reason to fear a centralization of editorial decision making, the change does have serious economic ramifications.

McGill-Queen's saves labor costs. From a staff of 27 in 1974, McGill will now employ one person. Jobs in warehousing, typesetting and printing will be reduced, and parcelled out from Toronto. That means fewer jobs in Quebec.

The possibility of government interference in publishing remains a consideration. Where production is centralized such interference, if it occurs, is facilitated. It's easier to stop one press than two.

While government meddling is not probable at this time, the possibility exists. Recently, the Australian government moved, albeit ineptly, to prevent publication of a book on a defence agreement with the U.S. which it deemed confidential.

Whatever the possible drawbacks, however, the trend to centralized production is strong, and Sutherland believes it will continue.

"There's the possibility all eastern Canadian scholarly publishing will be fed through the same machinery," he said.

With rising costs and shrinking markets, could the book become obsolete?

"We're on the threshold of far-reaching developments and it may become arch-conservative to cling to the printed word," Sutherland said.

But scholars are a conservative lot, suspicious of the computer and the electronic media.

And after all, as Sutherland put it: "The book is still a bloody functional way of storing knowledge."

Seed legislation threatens world food supply

continued from page 1

bring it back to life. Synthetic strains simply do not have the resistance to disease and weather as naturally occurring hybrid crosses do.

The industrial countries of the West are in large part to blame for the impending crisis, and matters are further complicated when we let our bad habits affect others.

In a world where millions are dying of starvation, eating meat becomes an extravagance. Every 10 calories of grain fed to livestock are reduced to only one calorie by the time they arrive at the dinner table in the form of steak. Also, eating meat is the least efficient use of vitamins from the sun.

Further, we have inextricably drawn nations that can't yet feed or employ the majority of their populations into

the arms race. And what we spend on overextending our own armed forces each year far overshadows what we spend in actual humanitarian foreign aid.

World hunger is a social and a biological problem of increasing proportions. Food has become a political tool, and peoples' access to it is being threatened. People are starving now, in the very parts of the world where over 95% of all crops originate. If we continue our present practices of wasting food, ignoring the genetic erosion of our staple crops, as well as watching the number of seed monopolies escalate, we will all soon have to worry about where our next meal is coming from, and no multinational will be able to save us then.

A team of professors and students at

McGill have sent a brief to Parliament encouraging members not to approve Bill C-32 on the grounds that it will encourage seed monopolies, and further contribute to the deterioration of the quality of the crop gene we have left. In addition, they object to the fact that food is more and more frequently being used as a political weapon. Some economists have gone so far as to suggest that a good cartel, modeled after the OPEC cartel, should be formed.

The rights of human beings to food is an inviolable one, as long as the earth can provide it. Yet the more sophisticated our technology and weaponry grow, the more people go hungry. Arms proliferation has no small effect on poor nations. For instance, two-thirds of Pakistan's national budget is spent on arms, because they have

been convinced that this is a way to enhance national prestige.

Not only are disproportionate amounts of money being spent on arms — often, these peoples' freedom is threatened. In a free nation, the military acts as a protective reserve force. But in some underdeveloped countries (such as in Latin America) our supply of arms translates into military juntas or police states.

As Dwight D. Eisenhower said after being inaugurated as 34th president of the United States, a statement which applies now more than ever:

"Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired signifies, in the final sense, a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed."

Restaurant
PLACE DU SOUVLAKI

Déjeuner Sandwichs Assortis Steaks Hamburger
 Fromageburger Pates Pizza Spaghetti Lasagna

2 Souvlaki on Pita with Soup & French Fries \$3.25
 One Hamburger with Soup & French Fries \$1.99

Wed. & Fri. Specials
 Fish & Chips with soup \$2.55

3500 Ave. du Parc (coin Milton) 843-3562
PICK-UP ORDERS

A + B ELECTROLYSIS
 + PLUS
 Removal of Unwanted Hair (by experienced specialists, Kree method.)
 Facials
 Leg Waxing and Ear Piercing
 By appointments 849-0181
 1414 Drummond St., Suite 316
 Drummond Medical Bldg.

TOWNE'S **SUPER SALE**

1/2 price on all Spring Samples Size 9/10
 Everything else up to 80% off

1432 Mackay 932-7102

The McGill Psychology Students' Association
 is having its first ever
Winter Welcome Back Party
 Sat., Jan. 17, 8:30PM
 Union Building Basement Rm. B01
FREE ADMISSION
 Beer, Liquor and Wine (at low prices)
 Our D.J. awaits you — Everyone Welcome.

Amnesty International
Opening Meeting
 Monday, January 19 at 5pm
 Room 425 Student Union Building

There are ski trips....and then there is
THE MCGILL WINTER CARNIVAL
SKI TRIP
 Friday, February 6th
 The Eastern Townships will never be the same!

Bromont (downhill) - \$23. (cr.country) - \$19.	Mont Sutton — \$25
Owl's Head - \$23.	Orford - \$25

These prices include:

- 1) Transportation by Murray Hill Coach
- 2) Breakfast served on the bus by McDonald's Restaurants
- 3) Lift Ticket
- 4) "Souper du Bon Vieux Temps" (Old Fashioned Supper), all-you-can-eat at l'Erblière La Goudrelle in Mont St-Grégoire.
- 5) Après-Ski party with D.J. and light show.

Buses leave the Union Building at 7:30 am and return at 1:00 am
 Tickets go on sale at Sadie's in the Union Building, 3480 McTavish on FRIDAY, JANUARY 16th.
 The DEADLINE is Friday, January 30th, so book now and avoid disappointment.
Don't miss out on any of the fun!!!

MCGILL ARAB STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

NEW U.S. STRATEGY IN THE MIDEAST?...
 WHERE DOES ISRAEL FIT?

GUEST SPEAKER: **PROF. JAMES PETRAS**
 sociology, s.u.n.y., binghamton.
 author.
 regular contributor, the monthly review & le monde diplomatique

MONDAY JAN. 19 7:30 P.M.
THE BALL ROOM, UNION BUILDING, MCTAVISH STREET
 admission free

U.S. assault troops to fly to Egypt
 SI VIS PACEM PARA BELLUM
REAGAN FOR PRESIDENT

THE CANADIAN AMATEUR ROWING ASSOCIATION
 Founded 1890
 Incorporated 1971

We're looking for a few good Men and Women!

The McGill Rowing Club
 is now recruiting Crews for its Spring semester season. Our Winter training program includes cross-country skiing, weight training programs, and rowing at the Indoor Practice Tanks at the Olympic Basin.

First general meeting is on **Thursday, Jan. 15** in **Room 310** of the **Student Union Building.**